WIGGLE UNIVERSITY

SEP 24 1996

LAW LIBRARY

September 23, 1996 23 septembre 1996

Novi

Vol. XVII N° 2

McGill University - Faculty of Law / Faculté de droit - Université McGill

Murphy's laws on law: a beginning

BCL III

HELENE JUTRAS &

BCL III

SÉBASTIEN LAPOINTE

You probably all know Murphy's law: if anything can go wrong, it will, and at the worst time possible. Since we couldn't find any of Murphy's laws on law, we wrote a few of our own, which might not be so much about law than about our little Faculty...

ON BUYING LAW BOOKS

1 If you buy the books and materials for only one class, it'll be THE one you'll decide to drop.

2 If you found someone to lend you a book, the professor will change the book he usually uses (which you could have for free) for one that is extremely expensive.

3 If you take a class in which the book is unfortunt nately outdated, your professor (for the sake of argument, let's call him P. Healy... no, that's too obvious, we'll call him Patrick H.) will know the author, who will provide you with his notes on the new edition he is preparing, making it almost impossible to follow, because it looks like: "page 74, cross-out the first two words of

the third paragraph, and replace by..." page 75, replace this case by that one, except for the facts, of which you will leave the second paragraph and replace the rest by..." page 76, after Justice Sopinka, insert the last sentence from the fourth paragraph of page 142, then delete the next three words, and then insert the following comment..."

4 If you manage somehow to read the material any way (AND pass the class) and your only consolation is to laugh, the next year, at people who will go through this too, the professor will then use a neat little book, very simple and very clear.

ON REGISTRATION

5 If you manage to get yourself a nice schedule, some thing will go wrong. Either classes will be re-scheduled or canceled or the exam schedule will change so to give you five exams in three days or, better yet, three exams at the same time.

6 If you wait until your last year to take a class, it won't be offered that year.

Suite en page 2

Top Ten Reasons

Why I Didn't Apply To The Law Journal

- 10 I'd have to read law stuff.
- 9 I'm already too busy fighting crime.
- 8 Would I have a hope in hell; I keep referring to the Dean as Darth Vader, in drag, ...
- 7 They don't get cool jackets.
- 6 The hazing at initiation is just too much for me.
- 5 I talked it over with Antonio (C.J.C.); He said not to bother.
- 4 Found out there are no submissions on Beavis and Butt-Head.
- 3 'Cause I'm too sexy for this Journal.
- 2 Professor Stevens rejected my suggestion for a Journal in Elizabethan English.
- 1 Lots of hours. No credit. 'Nuff said.

STEVEN LEITMAN, BCL III

In this issue Dans ce numéro

CHRONIQUE 2
ANNOUNCEMENTS2
Speech 3
President's Choice 3
Ultra Vires Society 4
PORTABLE COMPUTERS5
LEGAL CLINIC7

성

La tablette de chocolat

VÉRONIQUE-ÉLISABETH

BCL III

MARQUIS

Vous êtes-vous fait de nouveaux amis dans cette Faculté? Je parie que si. Et que si ce n'est pas le cas, ce n'est qu'une question de temps. (Si vous êtes en quatrième année, oubliez cette dernière remarque). Ce n'est pas si facile qu'on le croit de se faire de nouveaux amis. En fait, c'était beaucoup plus facile quand nous étions petits: en maternelle, tout le monde est ami avec tout le monde, on se tient par la main, on chante des chansons... ça ressemble à une grande fête hippie, mais on a tous 5 ans.

Maintenant, c'est plus compliqué. Il faut dire que nous sommes devenus sélectifs. On veut des amis qui partageront nos intérêts, nos goûts peutêtre. Et même quand on a trouvé de qui on veut être l'ami, il faut passer à l'étape suivante: il faut passer à l'acte. Quémander l'amitié, bref. C'est dur. Alors, je me disais, pourquoi ne pas avoir un code social uniforme pour une déclaration d'amitié? Et je proposerais en particulier, la tablette de chocolat. Tout le monde aime une tablette de chocolat de temps à autre. Alors, quand on veut que quelqu'un soit notre ami, on offre notre tablette. Dépendant du niveau d'espoir que l'on met dans cette relation, on peut offrir différentes qualités de chocolat. Je suis tellement emballée par cette idée que je vais la tester dès maintenant. Et faites tous comme moi: on sera gros, mais amis.

Un peu plus sérieux

Beaucoup plus sérieux, en fait. C'est un projet très sérieux, et qui me tient très à coeur, dont je veux vous parler. Dans les prochaines semaines, je solliciterai l'aide de certains d'entre vous pour répondre à un questionnaire concernant votre expérience de MARS (le système d'information automatisé de McGill). Ceci s'inscrit dans le cadre d'un essai que je suis à écrire sur le sujet, et ce sera fait sous la supervision du professeur, avec le plus grand sérieux et suivant des règles éthiques strictes. Donc, si vous entendez parler de ce projet, je vous demande sincèrement de collaborer pour en assurer le succès. Merci d'avance.

Coup de coeur

Vous en avez déjà marre de lire du droit? Cent ans de solitude est tout indiqué pour guérir votre mal. «a se lit tout d'une traite, c'est un grand rêve éveillé où tout peut arriver (et où tout arrive en effet). Si le paradis existe, espérons que Garcia Marquez en est le concepteur; c'est dans cet univers-là que j'aimerais vivre. Je voudrais vous donner plus de détails sur le contenu, mais je devrais vous dire que ça parle de l'amour, de la mort, de la solitude, et je ne parviendrais pas du tout à vous faire goûter l'humour parfois grinçant de tout cela, le ton unique qui

permet de faire avaler n'importe quoi au lecteur - qui en redemande - bref, le génie. Et il n'y est question d'absolument rien de légal, que je me souvienne...

Grincements de dents

Il faut que je vous confesse quelque chose: je suis non-fumeuse. Je n'ai même jamais fumé une cigarette de ma vie. Je n'aime ni la fumée, ni l'odeur, et m'emplir la bouche de l'une et de l'autre est une idée que je trouve, à tout prendre, répugnante. Bref, je suis une vraie non-fumeuse, une pure et dure. Et quand je vais au restaurant, je m'assieds à l'endroit qui m'est désigné. Comme ça, tout le monde est content.

Mais récemment, je n'ai pu m'empêcher de faire un parallèle entre cet état de fait et les affres à travers lesquels je dois passer quand je monte dans un autobus, spécialement le matin.

Est-ce qu'on ne pourrait pas créer des compartiments dans les autobus, pour ceux qui portent du parfum et les autres? (Quand je me sens démagogue, je rêve en fait d'un compartiment à part pour ceux qui puent en général). On dirait qu'il y a invariablement quelqu'un qui a des habitudes d'hygiène déficientes (pour parler la langue de la rectitude politique) à côté de moi.

«...je me disais, pourquoi ne pas avoir un code social uniforme pour une déclaration d'amitié?»



WCICUIIIC DACK

from the Law Bookstore

LAW BOOKSTORE MANAGER

ADRIENNE SEEL

Volunteer!

Now that you've fallen in love with all your courses why not come by the Bookstore and volunteer? After an hour of volunteering you get a "TO THE HEAD OF THE LINE" chit (what it is for should be self explanatory). Volunteering is a great way to hear gossip about courses, meet the new students (or if you are a new student meet the old inmates).

As this is my last term to volunteer/work at the bookstore I would also like to remind you that those individuals who want my job that first preference will go to volunteers. People interested in applying should contact me.

Scanning

You will have noticed that we have switched to scanning casebooks. I am sure that we all know what the problems have been (but as I write this I can only fearfully speculate) but there are advantages. One is that casebook quality should be improved - no more photocopy fade out. The second is that casebook updating is now greatly simplified. Therefore casebook production costs and time will

Announcements

The examination for the second term Labour Law course has been scheduled for Monday, April 28th, A.M.

IMPORTANT NOTICE to all students on QUEBEC LOANS AND BURSARIES. All Law students registered in the four-year NATIONAL PROGRAMME, who are applying for Quebec Financial Aid, should use CODE 14500 on their Financial Aid form to identify their programme. CODE 14000 should be used by Law students enrolled in a three-year, single Law degree.

The Law Faculty is extremely fortunate to have some of the best-appointed classrooms the University has to offer. Please do your part to keep them clean and comfortable. Remember, food and beverages are not permitted in classrooms.

Attention students entering their second year of Law. You have been registered in the National Programme. If you do not wish to pursue the National Programme, i.e. if you intend to

graduate with your degree of entrance only, you must complete and sign a form to that effect which is available from our office. Unless we know of your intention to graduate with a single degree, your name will not appear on the convocation list.

Locker Lists are posted on the bulletin board in the Cafeteria. Anyone occupying a locker assigned to someone else will have their lock cut off and their possessions removed, so please double-check the locker area and locker number assigned to you. If you do not intend to make use of your locker at all during the coming year, please notify Heather McCombie in the OUS.

LAST CHANCE FOR PAPERS AND ESSAYS FROM LAST TERM. The OUS still has a box full of papers and essays from last term, (January-April 1996). Please stop by our office to see if yours is among them. Papers unclaimed by 27th September will be recycled.

Quid Novi is published each two weeks by students at the Faculty of Law of McGill University, 3661 Peel Street, Montréal, H3A 1W9 (Tel: 398-4430). Production is made possible by support of the Dean's office and by direct funding from the students. Les opinions exprimées sont propres aux auteurs. Toute contribution doit indiquer l'auteur ou son origine et n'est publiée qu'à la discrétion du comité de rédaction. Articles can be sent to: quid@lsa.lan.mcgill.ca

Rédactrice en chef: Thanh-Tram Dang Rédactrice française: Véronique-É. Marquis Rédactrice anglaise: Rebecca Chan Finances: Anna Kapellas Directrice de l'information: Guylène LeClair Directeur technique (journal): Marcel Naud Directeur technique (web): Sébastien Lapointe

Job Offer

Law Bookstore Manager

Seeking replacement to begin for the winter term. Student should be willing to work long hours during the school term and preferably have volunteered at the bookstore. Duties include all bookstore matters excluding accounting functions. Position runs for one year and is renewable. For a detailed job description please see the LSA office manual or consult Adrienne Seel. Interviews will be held between October 21-25. Please submit a brief résumé and letter by October 15th to:

Attn Adrienne Seel McGill Law Bookstore 3647 Peel Street Mtl, QC - H3A 1X1

Suite de «Murphy's laws on law»

7 If you call MARS at 6 A.M. on the first day of registration, you'll find out that they opened at 5:30. If you had called at 5:30 they would've opened at 5...

8 If you didn't take family law in sec ond year because you wanted to take it with a professor who went on leave for a year, and you can, miraculously, register in third year in family law with THAT professor, he will take on the directorship of the Quebec Research Centre of Private and Comparative Law and will not give the class after all.

decrease over the next few years. This gain means that the bookstore's profit which is used to fund summer student jobs will be spent less on casebook production and more on actual research! Also the turnaround time on subsequent runs of an out-of-stock casebook title are promised to be only TWO working days (it used to be five) (I take such promises with a grain of salt but it means that things should be better than last year).

Hours

Hours are posted everywhere and bookmarks with the hours on them can be found outside Moot Court. The bookstore will be closed on Mondays. Till September 20th the bookstore will be open 930-1700, no later than till 1500 after that, until closing which will be WEDNESDAY OCTOBER 23, 1996 1300-1600. No books will be available outside of those hours.

Accessibility

The bookstore is NOT wheel-chair accessible. Hopefully this will change sometime before the new library building (if not, then it will be then at least). In the meantime, the bookstore offers ordering by email (Law_Book@lsa.lan.mcgill. ca) or phone (398-6327) to those students who cannot make it up or down our stairs.

Date de tombée: vendredi 27 septembre

Speech to the First-Year Class 1996-97

DEAN

"...in a complex and

dynamic institution such

as our own, tradition

and change can exist

side-by-side. I would go

further: a sense of strong

tradition can even

generate the confidence

necessary for change."

STEPHEN J. TOOPE

Good morning and welcome to McGill's Faculty of Law. You are sitting in the Moot Court Room surrounded by your future professors. It is a long-standing tradition in the Faculty that all our profs turn out on the first day of class to help the Dean welcome you to our community. This tradition is a symbol of the collegiality and warmth of the Faculty. As you have just learned, it is also a tradition that the entire gathering stands up when the Dean enters the room. I have never liked that tradition, for it strikes me as overly formal, verging on the pompous. Some traditions are like that, but they are hard to change. But don't be spooked. Al-

though you have just joined Canada's oldest faculty of law, a faculty grounded in traditions, mostly good, but sometimes questionable, my message to you today is about change and our community's wonderful capacity to reinterpret traditions in a contemporary idiom.

Vous allez découvrir ici, à McGill, une communauté dynamique qui n'est pas figée dans ses traditions. Bien sûr, nous sommes très fiers de notre histoire, et je suis heureux que vous puissiez entrer dans une lignée de personnages aussi illustres que Sir Wilfred Laurier, Sir John Abbott, Annie Macdonald Langstaff, la

première femme admise au Barreau du Québec, le fameux poète et avocat F.R. Scott, madame Claire Kirkland Casgrain, ministre du Gouvernement du Québec, la première femme occupant cette fonction, et bien d'autres.

Mais rassurez-vous, le poids de l'histoire ne doit pas vous écraser. Une autre tradition de notre faculté est d'être ouverte aux changements — au point de prendre des positions presque révolutionnaires. Par exemple, c'est ici que dans les années vingt, un programme national — permettant l'étude simultanée des deux grands systèmes occidentaux de droit — a été lancé. De sa position de professeur dans cette faculté, F.R. Scott a engagé une bataille contre les forces conservatrices de Maurice Duplessis et il en sortit victorieux. Aussi, la première ébauche de la charte universelle des droits de l'homme — une expression révolutionnaire des relations entre l'individu, le groupe, et l'État — a-t-elle été rédigée par John Humphrey, un autre professeur de McGill.

So you see, in a complex and dynamic institution such as our own, tradition and change can exist sideby-side. I would go further: a sense of strong tradition

> can even generate the confidence necessary for change. You are joining a community which over the years has demonstrated a genius for re-inventing itself. I referred to the origins of the National Programme in the 1920's. At the time the programme could not set down roots within the local community. But 40 years later, in the 1960's, the time had come to revisit the idea, to expand it and to create the new National Programme which has served to define this Faculty in the ensuing years. Now it is time once again to re-consider both the purposes and the structure of our National Programme. You arrive at the

Faculty just as major curriculum reform is being pursued. I encourage you to become part of that change.

When McGill's Law Faculty was founded, and for many years thereafter, its principal vocation was training professionals for the local bar. Although there were always strains of a more liberal and academic approach to legal education, the idea that legal studies could ground not only professional but intellectual ambitions, did not firmly take root in the Faculty (or in any other Canadian law faculty for that matter), until the 1960's. But history is never linear. In the late 19th century, Frederick Parker Walton served as Dean in the Faculty and wrote a classic of civil law scholarship: Scope and Interpretation of the Civil Code of Lower Canada. Similarly, a couple of decades later, one of the leading international legal theorists of our century, Percy Corbett, taught at McGill. The interplay between professional engagement and scholarly commitment has marked McGill's Faculty for generations. Acknowledgment of tradition and willingness to experiment continue to define our community life.

Aujourd'hui tu es confronté à de grands changements dans ta vie. Tu es peut-être venu d'ailleurs. Tu as peut-être quitté ta famille. Et te voilà engagé dans l'étude d'une nouvelle discipline, dont le vocabulaire peut sembler étrange, et dont les modes de pensée te surprendront probablement. Dans ces circonstances, la réaction naturelle serait de battre en retraite, face à la menace d'un trop grand défi! Écoute les mots d'un poète qui peut t'éclairer à ce sujet:

Bon était le monde au temps des anciens, Car y régnaient la foi, la justice et l'amour;

Il y avait aussi la croyance dont on fait peu de cas aujourd'hui.

Tout a changé, le monde a perdu sa couleur:

Il ne sera plus jamais ce qu'il était du temps de nos ancêtres.

Est-ce un poète désillusionné de la fin de notre siècle? Non, c'est Thibault de Vernon qui a écrit ces paroles au XIIe siècle. Le monde change. Il semble toujours avoir été meilleur avant, mais dans chaque génération des prophètes s'élèvent pour montrer les nouvelles directions.

No doubt some of you are nervous today. You are not entirely sure how you got here, and you certainly are not convinced where you are going. Others of you may be supremely confident, knowing that you can make

President's Choice

Dominique Lapierre

BCL III

PRÉSIDENTE

I tried to think up an original title for my bi-weekly article. So I came up with my friends favourite brand of cookies! I'll try (!!!) to update you on what's happening in the LSA and to answer the questions people are generally asking!

1 First of all, concerning the Law Library. I know the hours have been cut down...And there's a lot of frustration in the air. Unfortunately, it's beyond our control. I saw the Dean this week. The Law library is not under the control of the Faculty. It's under the University's jurisdiction. Just for you to know!

2 Deuxièmement. Nous recevrons le prochain tele phone cette semaine. S.V.P. ne le volez pas!!! C'est la troisieme fois qu'on doit remplacer ce téléphone...nous allons maintenant l'attacher avec des câbles de sécurité!!! La prochaine fois que le téléphone disparaît, vous devrez en faire votre deuil. We are providing this service for free so please be considerate. A bar will be fixed on the pool table also to prevent theft like last year.

3 A Coke machine will be available in the LSA office soon. The Pit Stop won't sell Coke products anymore.

The Pit Stop is open!!! The official Faculty of Law clothing will soon be available.

5 The photocopy machine is working. The tags are still sold at the Pit Stop.

6 Les groupes ressources commenceront cette semaine. Tous ceux qui veulent y participer doivent communiquer avec Véronique Marquis en ce qui concerne les activités organisées pour pratiquer votre français et avec Philippe Dufresne en ce qui concerne les tutorats.

I guess that's it for this week. The executive members of the LSA will have office hours starting next week. Just check our schedule if you have questions or concerns or just to say hello! Au plaisir de se parler!

providing this service for cerns or just to say hello! Au possible last year.

Copyright Levy

You may have noticed that casebooks are more expensive this year. This is because of the new copyright levy installed by the university. In short it is to compensate publishers who are unhappy about the royalty differential they receive from the Quebec copyright clearance service versus the service used in the rest of the country. It works out to about \$5/student or 1.5 cents/page of a casebook if printed at CPDS (one of the printing services at McGill that we are using this year). This works out to about \$10 per casebook. Obviously, since

we have only a relatively small amount of casebooks with recognized copyright within them, this hardly seems like a fair distribution for the faculty. I am currently trying to ascertain why the Legal Advisor's Office made the decision to make only the CPDS department responsible for the fee. Professors are not obliged to use CPDS and can take their business elsewhere, many in fact do so (hence the very high 1.5 cents/page). Stay tuned for more details. I hope to either get this levy removed, lowered or distributed more equitably.

your mark, even that you can change this venerable institution. Some of you may be looking for prophets; (phets/not fits!); some of you may want to become prophets. This community's openness to both tradition and change may actually allow for some synthesis of what might appear to be dialectical positions. The history of the Faculty is replete with heroic figures such as Annie Macdonald Langstaff and F. R. Scott. They may become sources of inspiration. During your sojourn here you will encounter new ideas, new ways of approaching problems, perhaps new solutions. You may discover prophetic voices challenging the pervasive cynicism of our age. But I also believe that the traditions of our Faculty and its contemporary intellectual challenges should equip you to struggle through to new insights and to articulate your own answers to eternal questions. You may discover your own prophetic voice.

For your class is filled with talent. Diversity is its hallmark. Permit me to offer a synopsis of your story. Approximately half of you are men and half women. For the first time in years, the scale is tipped slightly to the male side of the equation. Over 25% of the class is francophone by mother tongue, and many of you grew up first speaking a language other than English or French. The mother tongues of your classmates include Greek, Mohawk, Italian, Estonian, Hebrew, Chinese, Tagalog, and Spanish. The average age of the class is between 23 and 24, but those of you with a few grey hairs, don't worry: almost 10% of you have declared yourselves to be "mature" students. No doubt the rest of you will display signs of maturity as well. Roughly 14% of the class consists of visible minorities, and we are welcoming students from every province in Canada except Saskatchewan. A few of you come from the United States and Europe. Students have arrived from across Quebec, including La Baie, Chicoutimi, Shawinigan Sud, Tracy, Lennoxville, and St-Eustache. Twenty-five of you already hold, or will soon hold, graduate degrees, including two Ph.D.'s.

Our intramural hockey team should benefit from the presence of a former Junior A player. I hope that our student newspaper, Quid Novi, will discover the talents of our new free-lance journalist who has worked in Nepal

Suite en page 4

and the Czech Republic. All you debaters should lend spice to our mooting programme. Skit Nite will undoubtedly benefit from the contributions of our theatre director and our professional comedian. I am sorry to say that the founder of a multi-activity adventure travel club will probably find the boat cruise on the St. Lawrence rather tame. But I am most excited by the presence of no less than two bag pipe players in your class. Perhaps next year when I enter the Moot Court to give this welcoming speech I can be piped in with style.

This brief resumé reveals, I believe, that none of you should have cause to feel either overwhelmingly confident or petrified. You all have a place in this class and you've all been chosen through a process which strives to identify diverse capabilities and potential for contribution. I hope that you will soon discover that there is no reason to feel nostalgic from whence you have come. You are going to fit in to this remarkable class and benefit from its inevitably quirky richness.

Il est possible que les Cégépiens cèdent à la tentation de la nostalgie. Vous venez d'institutions à plus petites échelles, peut-être venez-vous d'autres régions du Québec. Vous vous trouvez entourés d'étudiants plus âgés, ayant des diplômes et soi-disant une vaste expérience de vie. Ne vous laissez pas indûment impressionner. Vous avez été sélectionnés avec grand soin et, bien que les difficultés soient considérables, avec de l'application, vous réussirez.

If you plunge into our traditions, but remain open to change, you will grow and McGill will grow. I would like to quote at some length from a wonderful poem by the distinguished Anglo-Irish poet Louis Macneice. His poem is called "Mutations":

For every static world that you or I impose
Upon the real one must crack at times, and new
patterns from new disorders open like a rose,
And old assumptions yield to new sensation
The stranger in the wings is waiting for his cue
The fuse is always laid to some annunciation.
Surprises keep us living: as when the first light
Surprised our infant eyes, or as when, very small

Clutching our parents' hands we toddled down a road Where all was blank and windless both to touch and sight Had we not suddenly raised our eyes, which showed The long grass growing wild on top of the high wall. For it is true, surprises break and make As when the baton falls, and all together the hands On the fiddle bows are pistons, or when, crouched above His books the scholar suddenly understands What he has thought for years - or when the inveterate rake

Finds for once that his lust is becoming love. "Patterns from New Disorders Open Like a Rose".

While I was a student here, buying casebooks was a nightmare. We had to go down to the central university book store, which was then a basement in a building on

"Si j'avais un seul souhait à

formuler, je vous dirais de

rester ouverts à toutes les

expériences - imprévues -

qui peuvent se présenter

dans une communauté

aussi riche que la nôtre."

lower campus, wait in line for hours and pay exorbitant rates for our books. Out of this disorder, a group of students chose to create a cooperative to supply law books to law students. That cooperative has now been in place for over 15 years and I can assure you that although there are still some lines and big dollars to spend, the Law Bookstore will save each of you time and money. A few students were open to change, they worked for it and they have benefitted generations to this day.

"Surprises keep us living: as when the first light surprised our infant eyes". A few years ago, it dawned on a group of students that legal information would be transformed by computerization and the emergence of new information technologies. No faculty member had any great expertise with computers, and faculty resources were - as always - constrained. So these students formed a Computer Committee, created a student lab which to this day is run by student volunteers, and helped the Faculty to organize computer training for incoming law students. Today we have assumed a position in advance of many Canadian law faculties, where all our students

have email addresses, all have access to two computer labs with connections to on-line data bases, and where more and more attention is being paid to computer literacy. We have not yet done enough, but we would be nowhere without the first light which dawned upon those prescient students just a few years ago.

"Surprises break and make - as when, crouched above his books the scholar suddenly understands what he has thought for years". Revel in joining a venerable institution. Enjoy the beauty of our common room, lounge on our lawns, participate in activities such as Skit Nite, mooting, and the Legal Information Clinic. But give yourself time as well for surprises to make you. In my third year as a law student I remember walking into an exam written by one of my most distinguished colleagues — I won't name him now. The exam was very hard and

very creative — so creative that when I first read the questions I thought I had been given the wrong exam. Now there was a surprise! I started to sweat, but I tried to keep calm and I took some time to think. After a few minutes of barely repressed panic, everything started to click into place and I can honestly say that I enjoyed writing the exam. I started to understand things I had thought about in many different contexts throughout my legal studies. They were all being pulled together during this exam. An-

other surprise! I hope that you too will experience wonderful moments of insight when you come to understand something that you have thought for years. Allow your old assumptions to yield to new sensations.

Je tiens à vous rassurer - en vous rappelant que «les surprises nous rendent notre vitalité». Les changements sont une source de renouvellement. Il faut laisser à la vie l'occasion de nous provoquer. Si j'avais un seul souhait à formuler, je vous dirais de rester ouverts à toutes les expériences - imprévues - qui peuvent se présenter dans une communauté aussi riche que la nôtre. Welcome to McGill Law, and let's make the best of it together.

The Ultra Vires Society: Call for Election

CHARLES

NAT IV

MORGAN

The first meeting of the Ultra Vires Society is tenta tively scheduled for Thursday, September 26, 1996 at 5:00p.m. The purpose of this meeting will be to chose a new President. As I am now a father, I will not have the time to fulfill the role myself.

Pour ceux et celles qui commencent à McGill et pour ceux et celles qui n'ont pas participé à une réunion de la société Ultra Vires, voici un court résumé de nos activités et de leur raison d'être.

In September, 1994, the McGill Law Ultra Vires Society was born. The idea behind the society was to provide a forum for thoughtful law students to get together on a largely informal basis, to discuss non-legal issues about which the students have expertise or passionate interest. Each meeting is led by a student who has prepared about 15 minutes worth of material on a subject of their expertise, chosen in advance. The floor is then opened to discussion, in the form of questions and criticisms, which generally lasts between 45 minutes and an hour. The meetings have been invariably fascinating and lively.

The Ultra Vires Society provides one of the few fora in the faculty (outside of 4th year research seminars) for interdisciplinary, critical thinking. It is one of the few places where students can really participate in and direct lively discussion. It lets students share their knowl-

edge and their experience. It lets them speak about the issues that are somehow left by the wayside once one enters the law faculty.

S'il y a une chose que je souhaiterais pour la société cette année ainsi que pour l'avenir, c'est qu'il y ait une plus forte participation de la part des francophones parmi nous (on se dispute aussi bien dans une langue officielle que dans l'autre). Les francophones de la faculté sont souvent plus jeunes que les anglophones, en raison de leur trajectoire académique: CEGEP-McGill. Ceci pourrait être un des facteurs qui contribuent à leur faible taux de participation en discussion, soit en cours, soit à nos rencontres. S'ils (elles) sont plus jeunes, ils (elles) ne sont certainement pas moins intelligent(e)s ou moins interessant(e)s. On profiterait tous de leur (de votre) plus grande participation. À plusieurs reprises, j'ai entendu dire que les francophones n'ont pas vraiment une place pour s'exprimer à la faculté, ou que certains sujets sont 'tabous' à McGill. La Société Ultra Vires est ouverte à n'importe qui et à n'importe quel sujet de discussion.

To express my gratitude to all those who have helped to make the Ultra Vires Society a success and to demonstrate the range of issues that we have discussed, I have included a list of all the speakers and their topics since the society's inception.

Thanks also to all those who have come out to our meetings. I hope that at least one of you will wish to lead the society this year and to help it build on its strength.



Fall 1994

- Ian Bird (LLB III), "Current Political and Economic Turbulence in Russian Society"
- Deborah Johnston (LLB IV), "Traditional Aboriginal Perspectives on Justice"
- Marjan Ehsassi (LLB III), "The Janus Face of the Women's Movement in Iran"
- Shelley Kath (LLB I), "Lobbying and Partisan Politics: The Environmental Debate"

Winter 1995

- Forum Discussion, Colleen Enache Brown and Nancy • Hoi (LLB I) with Judy Stymest (Student Aid), Denyse Lacelle (Project Genesis), "Axworthy's Proposals: Regression or Reform?"
- Dean Chenoy (BCL II), "The Clipper Chip Conundrum: New Information Technology & Privacy"
- Forum Discussion, President of Canadian Centre for Refugees, "The Plight of Refugees"

Fall 1995

- Nadine Thwaites (BCL III), "Le syndicalisme au Ouebec"
- Serge Koperdak (LLB III), "The Break-up of Czechoslovakia: the Lessons for Canada"
- Hugo Cyr (BCL III), "Les aspects inquiétants de la recherche sur l'A.D.N."
- Forum Discussions, "L'après référendum: solutions concrètes": two meetings

Winter 1996

- Sean Muggah (LLB III), "Sri Lanka: the Politics of Self-Determination"
- Alex Johnston (LLB I), "Violence against Women in China"
- Andrew May (LLB IV), "The State of Democracy in Mexico"
- Abdul Basit Khan (BCL III), "Islamic Movements in Multi-Party Political Processes"

Réflexion technologique

MARCEL

BCL II NAUD

Intro à lire dans un miroir

Désolé pour l'inconvénient que ça comporte pour vous de lire cet article dans un miroir. Que voulez-vous, on ne sait plus quoi inventer de nos jours pour attirer l'attention. Mais je vous promets que ce caprice n'est que passager.

Toutefois, au-delà d'une excentricité de forme, il faut voir qu'un tel artifice sert d'abord et avant tout le contenu du message que je désire transmettre. Je m'explique. Voyez-vous, c'est un peu comme cela que je perçois la technologie en général, et l'informatique en particulier: aux yeux du profane, ça revêt un caractère occulte et indéchiffrable, comme ce texte qu'on tenterait de lire sans réflexion (...); tandis qu'aux yeux de l'initié, c'est au contraire limpide et cohérent.

Quelle est la différence entre ces deux personnes? La seconde a pris l'initiative de placer la feuille sur laquelle est imprimé ce texte devant un miroir pour le lire. Voilà tout. Avouez que l'effort est minime en comparaison à la révélation que constitue pour elle le fait de pouvoir lire et — mieux encore — comprendre, de quoi il est question.

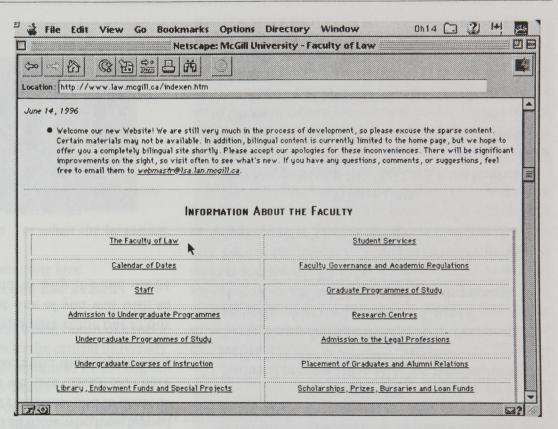
Et bien, c'est ce que, sans prétention aucune, je m'efforcerai d'être pour ceux qui daigneront me lire: un petit morceau du miroir aidant à appréhender un sujet tellement à la mode qu'on est écoeuré d'en entendre parler, j'ai nommé le phénomène de convergence entre les télécommunications et l'informatique. Si en bout de ligne je parviens à susciter un

c'est moins cher.») La différence se justifie évidement par le fait que dans le second cas on a tenté de faire autant que le premier avec moins de poids et de volume disponibles pour sa conception. Par contre, cette portabilité est en soi une caractéristique — ce que l'on a tendance à oublier – à laquelle l'ordinateur de bureau ne pourra jamais prétendre. A-t-on réellement saisi l'ampleur des implications de cette caractéristique?

Comme mon but à peine voilé est de promouvoir l'utilisation du portable au sein de la Faculté (qui est sur le point de vivre une pénurie de prises de courant dans les salles de cours...), je vais m'employer à tenter de convaincre les étudiants qui hésitent ou bien à se procurer un ordinateur ou bien à opter pour un portable, à mettre de côté leurs hésitations; dans un même souffle toutefois, je veux rassurer les récents acquéreurs d'ordinateurs de bureau qu'il s'agit d'une décision tout aussi valable. En général, ça dépend de nos besoins. Mais comme nous avons au moins une occupation commune, celle d'étudier, j'ose imaginer que certains de nos besoins sont également communs.

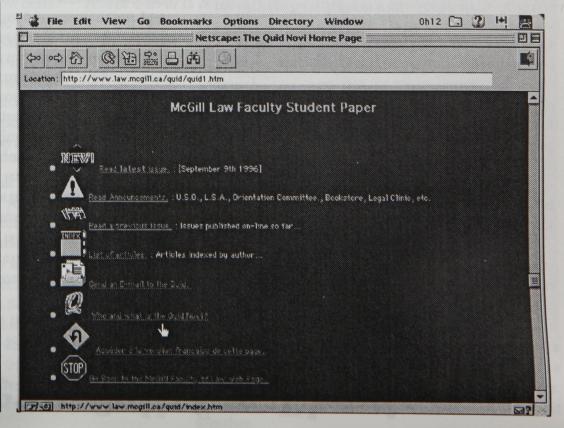
Pourquoi changer sa méthode de travail?

Faire le grand saut peut s'avérer très profitable pour l'étudiant, que ce soit sur le plan de la productivité ou de la performance. Il faut le voir comme un outil, un instrument supplémentaire ou un atout; ce serait une erreur cependant de voir cela comme la solution miracle: un portable ne fera pas les lectures à votre place, ne prendra pas des notes par lui-même, ne



Don't forget to visit the Web Site of the Faculty at http://www.law.mcgill.ca

... As well as the issues of the Quid Novi at http://www.law.mcgill.ca/quid



intérêt quelconque pour un domaine dont on ne peut plus vraiment faire abstraction, même si on le voulait bien, alors j'aurai atteint ce que l'on ne peut considérer pour l'instant que comme un objectif.

Dichotomie

Pour plusieurs, les derniers mois ont été une occasion de prendre des vacances, mais surtout de travailler tout en étant rémunéré. Et bien sûr, en ces temps d'opulence incomparable (...), ne sachant quoi faire avec les sommes colossales que vous venez d'amasser, vous décidez, par pur hasard ou grande lucidité, de magasiner - en vue d'acquérir, il va de soi - un nouvel ordinateur.

Votre sens aiguisé de l'observation vous aura fait remarquer que de nos jours la variété est telle qu'on pourrait pratiquement la comparer à celle prévalant sur le marché de l'automobile, (exercice auquel je vous laisse vous livrer en toute liberté, seul ou en groupe). Bien des classifications et catégories sont possibles. La distinction qui retient mon attention pour les fins de cet article est celle qu'il y a à faire entre les ordinateurs «de bureau» (desktop) et ceux «portables» (laptop).

Question d'argent

Le sens commun veut que l'on puisse d'abord constater qu'à configuration (caractéristiques) équivalente, le premier coûte moins cher que le second. Et c'est indéniable. (En raison du fameux principe: «C'est moins cher parce qu'on en vend plus, et on en vend plus parce que

rédigera pas les travaux et soufflera pas les réponses aux problèmes rencontrés. Mais à bien y penser, un cahier de notes non plus. Voici quelques différences notables (en plus des deux premières lettres de chacun des deux mots) qu'il y a entre un portable et un cartable. Énumération:

- · Transporter la totalité de ses notes de cours en permanence;
- · Effectuer des recherches par mots-clés;
- · Reprendre les notes manquées à l'endroit où elles devraient l'être;
- Manipuler des blocs de textes pour se faire des résumés;
- · Intégrer les résumés d'arrêts et de lectures aux notes de cours;
- · Conserver des copies de ses notes sur papier et sur disquettes en cas de perte;
- · Prêter ses notes à un ami sans avoir à s'en départir soi-même;
- · Utiliser le mode plan (outline) du traitement de texte pour organiser ses notes de façon plus cohérente;
- Saisir plus d'information;
- · Écrire plus lisiblement;
- · Utiliser des styles (gras, italique, souligné);
 - Ne jamais manquer de papier;
 - Éviter les files d'attente (et contribuer à les diminuer) des les salles d'ordinateurs de la Faculté;
 - · Jouer au Solitaire ou au «Mine Sweeper» pendant vos «temps libres»...

Quantité ou qualité?

Contrairement aux ordinateurs de bureau pour lesquels il est juste d'affirmer que mieux ils sont équipés, meilleurs ils sont, les portables, eux, sont

meilleurs lorsqu'ils sont le plus parfaitement moulés l'utilisation pour laquelle on les destine. Par

«Comme mon but à peine

voilé est de promouvoir

l'utilisation du portable au

sein de la Faculté (qui est sur

le point de vivre une pénurie

de prises de courant dans les

salles de cours...), je vais

m'employer à tenter de

convaincre les étudiants qui

hésitent ou bien à se procurer

un ordinateur ou bien à opter

pour un portable, à mettre de

côté leurs hésitations...»

exemple, un journaliste sportif qui couvre la discipline du parachutisme pourrait avoir besoin d'un parachute

intégré au portable qui se déploierait dès que l'appareil se trouve en chute libre, une caractéristique dont toute personne qui garde les pieds sur terre n'a pas besoin, même si cette capacité rend ce portable «plus puissant» que les autres. On se comprend? Dans le monde du portable, bien souvent puissance = encombrement.

En conséquence, les préoccupations principales que vous devriez avoir à l'esprit lorsque vous arrêterez votre choix sur un modèle en particulier sont les suivantes, en

ordre décroissant d'importance: le prix (ça fait moins mal de perdre 1000\$ que 2000\$), la garantie (un imprévu, c'est imprévisible...), le poids (à moins de vous appeler Hercule), l'autonomie (les batteries ne sont pas éternelles), le silence des éléments (clavier, pointeur, disque

dur, lecteur de disquettes, bip bip: vous ne voudriez surtout pas vous faire remarquer...), l'ergonomie (angle de l'écran et du clavier, luminosité et contraste, emplacement du pointeur, surface pour appuyer les paumes, etc...). Pour une utilisation en classe, sont superflus, à mon sens: un écran couleur, un lecteur CD-ROM, un modem interne et autres options du genre. Par contre, étant donné la rareté croissante des prises de courant dans les locaux, ce serait bien si (provisoirement je l'espère) chaque utilisateur se munissait d'un fil d'extension comportant deux prises, de

> sorte que plusieurs personnes puissent s'alimenter à la même source.

> > Conclusion d'un

Évidemment, ces guides ne sont pas des vérités universelles, en particulier si la prise de notes n'est pas la seule ou la principale utilisation que vous ferez de votre merveille technologique. De plus, ces critères de choix sont valables indépendamment de la compagnie qui fabrique le modèle

convoité. Toutefois, des considérations relatives au choix de la plateforme (DOS, Windows, Windows95, MacOS, OS/2, etc...) peuvent s'avérer infiniment plus importantes que ce qui est mentionné ici. Mais ça, c'est une toute autre histoire...

trop long article

Tales from the Red Hair Girl

HELENE

BCL III

JUTRAS

On the goodness of life

C o school has started again. In fact, even if you'd rather Onot know it, you're only a few weeks away from midterm (scary, huh?). The nights are short (I must admit here that for me, 9 hours is a strict minimum, so most nights are VERY short), the free time non-existent (now, that's only true if you classify things the right way: Coffee House, parties and watching The Simpsons are obligations, not free time) and classes which seemed so interesting on paper (and in the middle of July...) have turned out to be, oh surprise, just as boring as each and every class you have taken before. So as you're barely awake at 8 in the morning (if you hadn't been a fool you wouldn't have classes before 9h30; I know I don't, cause when I do I automatically fall asleep in the Professor's face, and it's not the best way to be remembered (I will now stop those crazy parentheses and go back to the actual text...)), you pour yourself some hot chocolate — the thought of drinking coffee makes me sick — and you think about getting back in bed and missing yet another class. What can save the day?

Cats. Cats are the answer to everything. Since the year started, watching the three cats of the house fight, run and play all over the living room has been the only thing to cheer me up and get me going. If you don't like cats, you'll never understand this (but I don't feel much sympathy for you, so I won't mind if you stop reading now), but cats are one of the best things in life, right up there with sex, beer, sleep, and having red hair. Only catpeople will understand how good it feels to be awakened at 5 AM by the snob-queen of the house who's purring away on your pillow, telling you in great secret that she loves you (well, she tried telling her "daddy" by licking all of his face, but he dared continue sleeping, so you're the one she turned to).

parler de tous les dieux des Romains, même les plus obscurs et me faire saliver, me faire même aller chercher des livres sur le sujet et les dévorer. Parce que, sans m'en être aperçue jusqu'à maintenant, c'est un peu en pensant à lui que je vivais ma vie. Je voudrais, moi aussi, être aussi cultivée que lui qui m'a fait découvrir les impressionistes et les autres, être aussi passionnée par mon travail, aussi lucide en regardant la vie. C'est cette lucidité qui me fait peur, parce que je la recherche, mais que c'est peut-être au bout d'une corde qu'elle mène. Voilà, si je ne dors pas la nuit, entendant le son d'une corde qui grince, c'est parce que j'ai peur, moi aussi, de ne pas trouver le juste milieu.

Chose curieuse, et heureuse, peut-être: c'est au cours d'un shower pour une copine que j'ai retrouvé des camarades du secondaire avec qui j'ai discuté de toutes ces morts. À l'heure où vous lisez ces lignes, mon amie a probablement déjà son bébé, un petit brin d'espoir pour pouvoir se dire que la vie continue...

Une invitation toute spéciale

I will risk repeating what the editors of the Quid say every year: first year students should not be afraid to write in the Quid Novi. In fact, many of us would be more than happy to read what you have to say before law school perverts you (it'll hit you at some point this year: "Oh my God, I'm thinking like a lawyer!!! Argh!!!"). I can't help but think of stupid formulas ("it is a Quid for the students, by the students", bla bla bla...) and in fact, I don't have the answer to life's greatest mystery (that is, being able to make students participate in extra-curricular activities), but I really think more people should write in the Quid, no matter what year they're in. I guess saying this is the only thing I can do (short of making some of you write at gun point (I'll keep this idea on the back-burner...)). JUST DO IT! I won't be the one pressuring you to go to the Law-Games, or to vote for this or that, or to go to some hockey game (this is an official promise: the LSA people have been elected to put pressure on you for all that, so I'll stay off of their

The Right Foundation

ADAM

NAT IV

ATLAS

There is introduction in this course to thinking that what we are doing is right.

This is the saddest moment in the training of a citizen.

The training which tells him how the hang-man is chosen and why she too can be the hang-man.

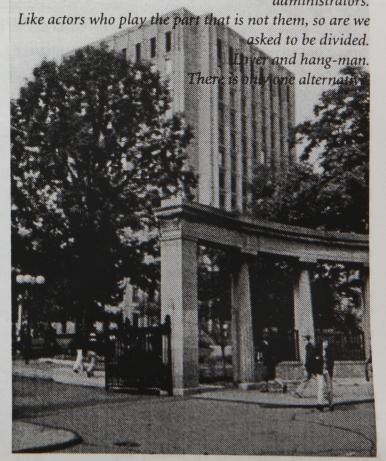
Oh, for the innocence which reigns before this point.

Oh, that this would not happen.

Oh, that I would not say that I thought this needed to happen.

This is rude, anti-social, criminal and inhuman.
Oh, that we were conscious of what we are thinking.
Oh, that we knew the harm which spews from beyond this step.

Why do you think these chairs are black? It is a set. A set on which we are being trained to act, to perform and play our parts as actors, as not people, but administrators.



On the frailty of life

Il n'y a pas cinq ans que j'ai fini le secondaire. Deux de ceux avec qui j'ai passé ces cinq années sont morts, déjà. L'un d'une maladie, l'autre assassinée. Il y en a peutêtre d'autres, mais ce sont les seuls dont j'ai entendu parler. Et il y a ce prof. Prof de latin de première secondaire, prof comme on n'en fait plus, un peu fou, tout-à-fait passionné, vif, brillant. Un de ceux qui ne voient pas les choses comme tout le monde, un de ceux qui vous donnent le goût d'apprendre n'importe quoi, pourvu que ça soit avec eux. Un de ces profs qui montrent des documentaires pendant l'heure du dîner à des kids de 13 ans, sans les forcer à venir, mais qui, d'une seule invitation, remplissait la salle. Eh bien il s'est suicidé à la mi-août, je ne sais pas pourquoi, et ça n'y

change rien. Des rumeurs veulent qu'il se soit pendu dans la palestre. 42 ans. Je ne sais pas comment vous expliquer... J'ai eu des cours dans la palestre, j'y ai dansé un slow de huit minutes (à 14 ans avec un inconnu, 8 minutes c'est interminable...), j'y ai eu des répétitions pour le show des finissants. Bref c'est un peu chez moi, c'est un endroit que je connais, que je pourrais décrire à la perfection. Et pour toujours, maintenant, l'image de cet endroit se conjugue avec une corde et un homme qui y pend.

Je ne vous raconte pas ça pour vous faire la morale, ni même pour faire un discours anti-suicide. À chacun son affaire. Ce qui me choque là-dedans, ce qui m'empêche de dormir la nuit, ce n'est pas le suicide. Ce n'est pas la corde, ou le possible sang par terre, ou même l'image nette que j'ai de ce dont un pendu a l'air. C'est de me voir là, à la place de ce prof, le premier qui a su me traiter comme une adulte, qui a pu me

turf), but I insist, write, even only once, even simply to reply to another article, for the Quid.

Suggestion pour une soirée de repos

Si vous n'avez rien à faire un soir, ou, plus vraisemblablement, si vous choisissez de prendre du temps pour vous, louez le film "Jeffrey". Pas de gros budget, pas de violence, pas de tartes à la crème, et pourtant ce n'est pas un de ces "chick movie" que je ne peux supporter. C'est un film qui parle du monde gai sans en

faire un plat. Des homosexuels qui vivent leur vie, avec des préoccupations modernes et un humour de tous les jours, mais que l'on ne donne pas en spectacle. Enfin, on peut parler d'homosexualité dans un film sans qu'il s'agisse d'une étude de société à la Philadelphia, sans qu'on les observe de l'extérieur comme une bibitte étrange. As a bonus, you get to see the captain of the Enterprise (the one who is realistic about not having hair, not the delusional one) being quite... "happy". It's great.

Emond Montgomery Publications Limited

The Law Study **Support Series**

presents

Big Picture Outlines

Get a head start! Avoid fear and confusion! Eliminate anguish!

Big Picture Outlines give you the law study support advantage. In a concise, conversational format, each Big Picture Outline provides a "roadmap" that introduces you to the subject. Find out where you're going in the subject as lectures and readings progress. Get the law study support advantage.

Attention First-Year Students!!

Take advantage of our First-Year Big Picture Six Pack. You'll get six outlines for the price of five. It's the only six pack that takes away a law school headache!

> Available at your university bookstore

Look to Emond Montgomery to help keep you on top of Canadian Law



Legal Clinic ~ Chez Doris

CHARLES

NAT IV

MORGAN

Last year I volunteered at a women's shelter called Chez Doris as part of the legal clinic program offered at McGill. The clinic provides an opportunity to use one's legal training in a hands—on, real—life basis. Chez Doris is a "day—shelter for women", which provides two meals a day (breakfast and lunch), a pleasant atmosphere for social interaction, and services such as counseling, legal information, job search skills, cooking classes, arts and crafts, clothing, bathing facilities, food distribution, workshops on AIDS prevention, etc. This article is extracted from my final report.

A Day in the Life of Chez Doris

(Not necessarily a "typical" day; but a day nonetheless)

The morning air is brisk; I am in a good mood. As I walk up the stairs to the porch before entering the front door, I am greeted by a woman huddled on the stoop, smoking a cigarette with the same intensity that a drowning person might gasp for air. Her eyes are glossy but open wide and, in between drags, she has a broad smile on her face. I cannot decide if she is feeling elated or is about to cry. As it turns out, both reactions are forthcoming. Unsure of her mood, I greet her as I always would. She winks backs at me, looks up at the clear blue sky and says ambiguously "Je suis à l'abris de l'espoir" which can either mean that she is at the Shelter of Hope (a coy reference to another women's shelter) or that she is sheltered from hope (a reference to her state of despair). Then she turns to me and shows me the bandages on her wrists. "I spent last night on the psychiatric ward," she says, "but I am here today!" In contrast to her small, worn, smoker's face, the vibrancy of her glistening blue eyes is astonishing. I feel both her exaltation and her pain. I smile. She blows me a kiss and comments on how beautiful the sky is. I nod in agreement and enter the shelter.

Immediately upon being "buzzed in", I am greeted

day L just wants to let me know how lonely she feels. She tells me about her brother Jesus, who should be punished for screwing everything up and for leaving his sister all alone. She tells me that Satan isn t bad: he s just obedient. He was put on earth by God so as to give us choice. He has performed his role properly; it s Jesus who got things wrong. I realize I sort of understand what she s talking about.

L s story about Jesus starts to become funny when she tells me about one of his visits to her in a prison cell. He came out of the toilet, wearing a white robe, she says, and went zooming about the cell. As she motions the zooming motion, she breaks out in her characteristic laughter, which is not the laughter of a mad woman, but real laughter: the laughter of someone who has understood the absurdity of her own situation. (She once told

me that she is not crazy; it is just that sometimes the pain is too strong for her to be able to maintain contact.)

By the end of the conversation, nothing has been resolved, but at least she is laughing. A comes in, as L leaves, and she has brought with her the second woman who wanted to see me. Again, this woman is a force to be reckoned with. Somehow she had been mixed up with the financial transactions of her brother, near the time of his death. Huge sums of money were involved, (none of which went to her in the end) and she has been dealing with tax officials ever since.

A knows the story well and is as exasperated as the woman is over the thick—headedness of certain bu-

reaucrats. She asks that I stay with the two of them, while she talks to the tax official. The forcefulness of A s tone on the phone surprises me somewhat, because, while the more pertinent events, my morning was at an end. I put on my jacket, said good—bye to Maria, the Director, and peered in one of the upstairs sitting rooms before heading down the stairs and out the door. On the couch lay the woman who had greeted me on the porch that morning and who had yelled so loudly in anger and pain. Curled up under a blanket, sleeping soundly, she was the size of a child. The exaggerated blush of red make—up on her cheeks, her painted mask of happiness, valiantly maintained the charade, even as she slept. So small, so vulnerable, I was happy that, at least here, she was safe.

II - What a student needs to work there

Chez Doris is a special place. It would be a shame if someone chose to work there just to get the three cred-

its of the legal clinic. To work there, one should really feel a desire to participate in and contribute to the community. One should feel comfortable with people from all kinds of backgrounds and with all kinds of ways of expressing the difficulties of living - drug or alcohol problems, psychiatric problems, loneliness, poor health. One should be aware that we all have a lot in common, that we all are deserving of respect and generosity, and that the women of Chez Doris perhaps have as much to give us, as young law students, as we have to give to them.

On a more practical note which has repercussions with respect to how effectively one interacts with the women, I think that students who volunteer at Chez Doris really

should be fluently bilingual. Three quarters of the women are francophone and the rest are anglo— or allophone, often unilingual. Language is an essential pre—

"She winks backs at me, looks up at the clear blue sky and says ambiguously "Je suis à l'abris de l'espoir" which can either mean that she is at the Shelter of Hope (a coy reference to another women's shelter) or that she is sheltered from hope (a reference to her state of despair)."

by three people at once: the woman working the desk says hello; one of the Inuit women I have helped waves to me; and another member of the staff ("A") approaches me to tell me quietly that two women are waiting to see me. There is a certain energy in the air, and I can tell that the woman I met sitting on the front step is not the only one who feeling the weight of life's ambiguities.

One of the two women mentioned to me by the staff member calls out as I go up the stairs to the office. She ("L") is a tall, black woman. Though suffering terribly from psychiatric disorders, and from the drugs she takes to numb her psychotic episodes, she has, when lucid, a terrific sense of humour, an extraordinary vitality and a good deal of wisdom. We have become friends. I let her know that I won't forget to see her this morning, and finally make it up to the office where I can take off my coat, sit down for a moment and take a few uninterrupted breaths to centre myself.

Another staff member J comes into the office, laughs endearingly, and acknowledges that something is up to-day. I tell her about the woman on the front step. She explains that the woman had lost it completely the day before, that when the police took her in off the street, they required about four people to keep her from hurting herself or others. She weighs all of 85 pounds. Moreover, they had to take off her clothes and leave an officer watching over her constantly, because she kept trying to strangle herself. Apparently, the police finally called Chez Doris in exasperation, and one of the staff told them to bring her to the psychiatric ward, where she d spent the night.

I hear L calling out my name in the background. She pushes open the door, and J leaves me to speak with her. L lost her son to her ex—husband in a custody battle ten years earlier. The husband had been abusive and L had been too afraid to attend the divorce proceedings, or to retain the services of a lawyer. The husband not only got custody, he was granted all economic interest in the family home. The husband left with the son and all assets to Australia, and L was left destitute. I knew all this already; I had already contacted the Australian Embassy, which had given me the name of the person in Australia, who would look into the well—being of her son. Today, L doesn t want to talk about this, nor about her breast implant surgery (although this is a source of some pride!). To-

clearly a strong-willed woman, she always manages to be polite, calm, and jovial with people. All the while that A is on the phone, the woman with the tax problems is speaking a mile a minute, letting the world at large know about her version of the story and about all the injustice she has suffered. I am amazed that A can manage to follow the conversation on the phone, with all the competition for her attention coming from tax woman (Tell him that I worked for years to look after my brother and got nothing tell them how they robbed me tell him tell him). Finally, with a mischievous wink, A says to the man on the phone that it would perhaps be a good idea if he speak to the woman in question directly. A passes the phone and sits back in her chair and smiles as the tax woman speaks with only a marginal level of coherence for about twenty minutes solid. The poor man probably didn t know what hit him. He didn t have an opportunity to say a word. In fact, the tax woman spoke so rapidly, that I am not sure whether she had an opportunity to breath the whole time she was on the phone. Finally, A took back the phone and was just about to close the discussion (tax woman still fuming indignantly in the background), when we heard angry, desperate shouting from the other room.

A calmly closed the discussion by explaining to the man that there was a crisis and that she had to go. By this time we realized that the shouting was from the woman I had met on the step earlier this morning. She entered the office, yelling through tears at the world at large and calling out for A (they had developed a special relationship). A immediately got up to hold her, and calmly led her out of the room. She spoke to the woman in a reassuring voice (the voice of a mother speaking to a sobbing child). The words were unimportant; rather it was her presence and her tone that mattered. Hers was a presence that let this desperate woman know that her sadness was understood, that she was loved, that she was safe.

As the two women left the room, the tax woman muttered something about all the crazy women here (funny how many people seem to think that everyone else is crazy!) and I sat back and marveled at A s ability to shift focus, to seize the moment, to give of herself so completely and so effectively. An extraordinary person. After eating a bit of lunch and writing in the log some of

requisite to connecting with the women; and if they are to trust you sufficiently to tell you about their anxieties, they are going to have to feel they are being fully understood.

III - General Comments

Chez Doris is a place where one sees very clearly life s precarious balance. One sees both strength and fragility; despair and the thirst for life. These are women who live among us. They have much to tell us about ourselves because they live their madness, sadness, elation more fully than most of the rest of us do. They are not caricatures; but they are, in some sense, more complete versions of ourselves. For one reason or another, they have fallen outside the system. Those of them who still make attempts to follow society s codes, do so awkwardly, often with the effect of demonstrating the absurdity of much of our own codified behaviour. Those who can no longer keep up pretenses, live their emotions with an intensity and an authenticity that at times renders them mad; but shows up the flatness of many of our lives. Each of these women has a story; each of these women lives nearby. I am happy that, as a result of my work at Chez Doris, I had an excuse to get to know them better.

One further comment. It is striking the extent to which the so-called respectability of the person speaking gives authority to what is being said. So often my role consisted in making a telephone call on behalf of a woman who probably could have made the call herself. The difference is, the person on the other end of the line always listened to me. That person always took the time to check the file, scan the computer entry, speak politely, refer me to the person I should really have been speaking to. Were the woman to have called on her own behalf, she might not have been given the time of day. As law students volunteering at Chez Doris, one of our primary abilities is to give voice to someone else; to lend credence to their distress. We must never forget, when we look at people on the street, that part of the reason they are there, is that, unlike ourselves, they are not heard.

Internet at home

s a user of modem dialup access, you A will need to obtain an individual DAS (Dialup Access Services) account. Users in general will each have only one DAS account. You may already have a DAS account, in which case you can use it to convert to a new one. If you don't currently have a DAS account, you need to get one, and the procedure to do that will be outlined below. You'll be able to use an automated system called Reggie (available via modem access as well as networked computers throughout the campus) to allocate and maintain your account, and to change billing methods or payment plans. Reggie will be available 24 hours a day seven days per week. Unless there is an authorisation form to sign, you won't need to visit the Computing Centre offices.

Most users will use something called the common modem pool. It consists of modems that are reserved for general use, and conceptually is the same as the current arrangement of shared access, except for the aspect of charging.

Individual Charges in the Common Modem Pool

The charge associated with your usage of the common pool will be \$0.60 per hour (a penny per minute), subject to a \$75.00 maximum per month. To offset this somewhat, there will be a free allocation initially set to 4 hours per user per month. The 4 hour figure is determined by the size of the budget currently funding free modem access and the number of active users at McGill. As the number of users increases, this free allocation may decrease. Depending on the number of hours you connect to McGill via dialup

Des activités, des activités et encore des activités!

GUYLÈNE

BCL III

LECLAIR

Cette année, l'équipe du Quid Novi a décidé de créer un nouveau poste au sein de son équipe, celui de: "news director" ou plutôt de responsable des nouvelles. Ce poste de liaison permettra de maintenir un contact étroit entre notre journal et les divers clubs de la faculté. L'information concernant les activités qui se déroulent ici sera ainsi plus aisément transmise aux étudiants. Alors, finies les excuses pour manquer une conférence ou une réunion faute d'en avoir été informé à temps!!! Toute les deux semaines, je tenterai de vous faire un bref aperçu de ce qui se passe dans les divers organismes,

clubs, groupes... Alors, n'hésitez pas à me contacter pour me faire parvenir vos projets ainsi que les détails concernant l'événement ou la rencontre que vous planifiez ou tout simplement votre opinion sur cette nouvelle rubrique.

Si vous avez manqué la semaine des clubs ou étiez trop timides pour vous inscrire – je m'adresse surtout à tous les étudiants de première année, encore trop impressionés ou traumatisés pour oser se faire une place içi!— votre vie sociale n'est pas terminée et il vous sera toujours possible de vous impliquer. Le droit international, la santé, le statut des femmes, les minorités …etc vous intéressent? De nombreuses activités sauront satisfaire votre curiosité.

En vue cette semaine, le "McGill University Causus of Women and the Law" vous propose une table ronde sur "Women speak; Gender and globalization", à ne pas manquer le 26 septembre à 16h. au moot Court.

Aussi, le nouveau club de McGill sur la médiation et l'arbitrage (M.M.A.C.C.) offre une série de 12 conférences permettant d'obtenir un diplôme reconnu par le Centre d'arbitrage commercial national et international du Québec à la fin de l'année. Tout ce qu'il faut faire, c'est y assister. La première aura lieu le 2 octobre à 12h30, allez donc y jeter un coup d'oeil. Sur ce, bonne année et bonnes activités!

Reggie. Reggie is on the World Wide Web and can be accessed with the following universal resource locator (url): http://reggie.mcgill.ca/~reggie.

If you have access to a Web browser you can use this url directly. If not, you can access Reggie via the terminal server when you connect via modem. Use reggie as the login id and password. For more information on using Reggie, see how to... Use Reggie to Allocate a DAS Account - A11, available on infoMcGill and the World Wide Web.

Identifying Yourself

In order to use Reggie everyone (students and staff) will need a temporary identification number (TIN), which is available to you in different ways depending upon your status. If you are a student who is not a current DAS user, then you will be able to get a temporary identification number in September when you go

count. At this point, you will need to provide your temporary identification number (or old Terminal Server password) as well as your student, staff, or Hospital Staff ID number so that we can be sure that it really is you that is requesting a DAS login account.

You'll be assigned a login account (maximum of 8 characters) based on your name. Typically, it will consist of your first initial and the first 5 characters of your last name. Variations of this may be used to generate a unique name, and in some circumstances sequence digits may have to be appended.

At this point in the registration process, you'll be expected to provide payment information. Without valid payment information, you will not be able to use modem services beyond the 4 free hours available to everyone. If you're a student, you have the option of paying either via your student fee account or

evening from Monday through Friday. Taking into account the 4 free hours per month, you'll be billed \$9.60 for that usage (based on 20 hours used during the month).

During the month, you'll be able to monitor how much time you've used by accessing Reggie and requesting a summary of your charges which will be displayed on your screen. You can then print it yourself if necessary. This will allow you to anticipate what your monthly charges will be, and to switch to the flat rate if it turns out that this is better for you. Note that you can change this payment option at any time during the month, but it will only take effect for the following month. The Reggie system will display both your current billing options as well as any changes that you may have designated for the following month.

If you experience problems, you can send e-mail to the Computing and Com-

access, you may benefit by using the alternative flat rate of \$50.00 per month for unlimited usage.

It should be emphasized that charging is being done on a cost recovery non-profit basis only. Note that the fee structure will be reviewed annually by the Senate Committee on Computing. As well, we may also look at a variety of other charging plans which may lower the costs to many users.

Allocating DAS Accounts

As mentioned above, you can allocate and manage your DAS accounts via

to pick up your McGill student ID card, or afterwards in Burnside Hall.

Using Reggie

The actual procedure of validating your account will be as follows. If you have WWW access, connect to url "http://reggie.mcgill.ca". If you are using a modem and terminal emulation software, dial the modem access number and login to the account called Reggie. Once logged in, the system will present you with a series of screens that lead you through the process of allocating your DAS login ac-

credit card.

Your payment information can be changed at any time, but it will only take effect after the current billing period. This applies not only to financial information but also to the method of payment that you choose to use.

How Much Will All This Cost?

To give you some idea of the costs involved, let's look at an example. Suppose you use 5 hours a week for 4 weeks (one month's usage) dialing into McGill's modems. This is basically one hour an

munications Support Services at help@cc.mcgill.ca, or phone the Help line at 398-3700 from 9:00 to 5:00. To report urgent problems after hours, contact Operations at 398-3699. Finally, to make comments or suggestions about dialup access, you can send e-mail to dialup@cc.mcgill.ca.

We hope that once this system is in place, we will be able to provide a high level of modem service, and be able to keep up with the ever increasing demand for dialup access.



WIN: \$250 in tuition fees.

GRAND PRIZE: \$2500

In tuition fees. One grand prize among participating universities.

Get your entry form today!

Contest details and rules are available at the Meloche kiosk located, outside the Moot Court in New Chancellor Day hall, on the following days:

Wednesday, September 25 and Thursday, September 26, 1996.

Come and discover a home and automobile insurance program that is designed for your needs. For further information call us at 384-1112 or 1-800-361-3821

Sponsored by:



MELOCHE·MONNEX

Calgary · Edmonton · Halifax · Montréal · Toronto

Coming up

WED OCT 02, 1996 Lecture: Law - Mr. Bassem Eid, on Encounters on human rights, Faculty of Law, Moot court, 5:30 pm.

FRI OCT 04, 1996

Etc: Law - Professor Alon Harel, Hebrew University, on What is wrong with theories of rights?, New Chancellor Day Hall, Rm 202, 11:30 am.

THU OCT 10, 1996 Lecture: Law - The Honourable Justice Aible Sachs, on Natan

sharansky lectureship in human rights, Faculty of Law, Moot court, 5:30 pm.

MON NOV 04, 1996

Lecture: Law - The Honourable Bernard Kouchner, Will deliver the beatty memorial lecture, Stephen Leacock Bldg, Fieldhouse Auditorium, 6 pm.

Thomson House

• MON SEP 23, 1996 •

- September 23, 24, 25, 30, 31

- Kids in the hall: Brain candy

- Monday: 8:30 pm, Tuesday & Wednesday: 6 pm & 9 pm.

• TUE OCT 15, 1996 •

- October 15, 16

- Othello

- Monday: 8:30 pm, Tuesday & Wednesday: 6 pm & 9 pm.

• MON NOV 04, 1996 •

- November 4, 5, 6

- The Truth about Cats and Dogs

- Monday: 8:30 pm, Tuesday & Wednesday: 6 pm & 9 pm.

• TUE OCT 01, 1996 •

- Diabolique

- Monday: 8:30 pm, Tuesday & Wednesday: 6 pm & 9 pm.

• MON OCT 21, 1996 •

- October 21, 22, 23

- Down Periscope

- Monday: 8:30 pm, Tuesday & Wednesday: 6 pm & 9 pm.

• MON NOV 11, 1996 •

- November 11, 12, 13

- The Craft

- Monday: 8:30 pm, Tuesday & Wednesday: 6 pm & 9 pm.

• MON OCT 07, 1996 •

- October 7, 8. 9

- Broken Arrow

- Monday: 8:30 pm, Tuesday & Wednesday: 6 pm to 9 pm.

• MON OCT 28, 1996 •

- October 28, 29, 30

- The Shanghai Triad

- Monday: 8:30 pm, Tuesday & Wednesday: 6 pm & 9 pm.

• MON NOV 18, 1996 •

- November 18, 19, 20

- Nick of Time

- Monday: 8:30 pm, Tuesday & Wednesday: 6 pm & 9 pm.

FREE MOVIES